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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: WHITTLE, Brian Anthony

Serial No.: PCT/GB99/03196 filed September 24, 1999

U.S. Serial No.: Unassigned - filed herewith

For: NUTRITIONAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination and prior to calculating the filing fee,
please amend the claims as follows:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 as follows:

506
B2
H1
1. A nutritional or pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more water containing components in which the water is releasably bound wherein [one or more anhydrous compounds are] at least one anhydrous compound is mixed in the composition in an amount capable of sequestering any water which may be released from the one or more water containing components to provide a continuous desiccant effect under normal handling conditions.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.10)

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on March 23, 2001, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Mailing Label No. EF112683171US, and is part of the documents transmitted for entry in the U.S. National Phase under Chapter II, addressed to: Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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